

*17th Annual Arnoff Lecture on the Practice of
Management Science*

“Sports Scheduling and the Practice of Operations Research”

Michael Trick, Professor of Operations Research
Tepper School of Business
Carnegie Mellon University

*7:00 P.M., Wednesday, June 4, 2008, 8:00 P.M. Reception
112 Carl H. Lindner Hall, College of Business, UC*

Major League Baseball is a multi-billion dollar per year industry that relies heavily on the quality of its schedule. Teams, fans, TV networks, and even political parties (in a way revealed in the talk) rely on the schedule for profits and enjoyment. Only recently have the computational tools of operations research been powerful enough to address the issue of finding “optimal” schedules. Trick will discuss his experiences in scheduling college basketball, major league baseball, and other sports, and show how operations research is revolutionizing the way sports scheduling is done.

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*Seventeenth Annual E. Leonard Arnoff Memorial Lecture
on the Practice of Management Science*

***“Sports Scheduling and the Practice of
Operations Research”***

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Abstract

Major League Baseball is a multi-billion dollar per year industry that relies heavily on the quality of its schedule. Teams, fans, TV networks, and even political parties (in a way revealed in the talk) rely on the schedule for profits and enjoyment. Only recently have the computational tools of operations research been powerful enough to address the issue of finding “optimal” schedules. Trick will discuss his experiences in scheduling college basketball, major league baseball, and other sports, and show how operations research is revolutionizing the way sports scheduling is done.

Michael Trick

Michael Trick is a Professor of Operations Research at the Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon. His research interests are in computational integer programming and its application to problems in logistics, sports, and social choice. He has just completed a year-long visit to the University of Auckland, New Zealand, as Hood Fellow. In 2002, he was President of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) and is currently Vice President/North America of IFORS (International Federation of Operational Research Societies). His consulting has included work with numerous professional leagues and college conferences on sports scheduling issues, work with the United States Postal Service on supply chain design, and work with the Internal Revenue Service on capital budgeting.